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## **Rhode Island Department of Health**

### **Criteria for Facilities Providing Yellow Fever Vaccinations**

Yellow fever (YF) vaccine is the only licensed vaccine not available commercially to all licensed health care providers. It can only be purchased by and administered at yellow fever centers designated by state health departments or Federal agencies. The RI Department of Health can designate your practice location as a Yellow Fever Vaccination Center based on an assessment of your ability to meet the standards necessary for handling, storing and administering the vaccine in a safe manner.

In addition, several countries require proof of current immunization against yellow fever at the time of entry. To meet this requirement, a traveler must present a properly validated international certificate of vaccination. Validation with a uniform stamp must be done at a designated yellow fever vaccination center. The stamp must be issued to an individual practitioner who is the designated vaccine administrator and may not be used by others in the practice. A sample of such a uniform stamp must be on record at the Health Department.

To be designated a yellow fever vaccination facility by the Rhode Island Department of Health (DOH), a facility must agree to:

- Provide yellow fever vaccinations to **all** individuals requesting services including persons who are **not** in the facility's primary patient population. Note: DOH does not expect facilities to provide this service at no cost. It is left to the discretion of the individual provider to determine the cost and payment arrangements.
- Before receiving the vaccine, provide the Yellow Fever Vaccination Information Statement (VIS) to any patient receiving a yellow fever vaccination, <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm#yf>
- Only administer yellow fever vaccine at the address indicated in the certification letter, and **never** redistribute the vaccine to other sites.

- To provide advice regarding the need for prophylactic anti-malarial medication to travelers and hold clinics at least once weekly at a regular scheduled time and place.
- Allow publication of your YF vaccination center address and telephone number and practitioner name on the CDC and RI Dept of Health Website for public view. See <http://www.health.ri.gov/immunization/for/travelers/index.php> and <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellow-fever-vaccination-clinics-search.aspx>
- Ensure appropriate storage and handling procedures are in place for all vaccines, following best practices standards as described in the *General Recommendations on Immunization, Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices*, December 1, 2006/Vol. 55/No.RR-15, which is available on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5515a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5515a1.htm) and the CDC Storage and Handling Toolkit, available online at <http://www2a.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/shtoolkit/>.
- Report adverse vaccine reactions to the national vaccine adverse events reporting system (VAERS), VAERS report forms are available at [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/YellowFever/vaccine/YF\\_Vreactions.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/YellowFever/vaccine/YF_Vreactions.html)
- Access current information on changing YF immunization requirements by checking <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/> and <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2010/chapter-2/yellow-fever.aspx> CDC's "Yellow Book" and travel website, [www.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx); travel warnings of the U.S. State Department; the World Health Organization's *International Travel and Health Vaccinations Requirements and Health Advice*
- Maintain a uniform stamp in the prescribed format, specifically registered to it by DOH, using the Rhode Island Department of Health license number of a provider currently practicing at the facility and stock international certificates of vaccination. This number will be on file at DOH and CDC. See <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2010/chapter-2/yellow-fever.aspx>
- Submit quarterly reports to the DOH Office of Immunization as to the number of doses of yellow fever vaccine administered on the prescribed form.
- To alert DOH yellow fever vaccine coordinator of changes in contact information for the facility.